

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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SUBJ: CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY INAUGURATION JULY 28

1. APRA'S VICTOR RAUL HAYA DE LA TORRE PRESIDED OVER THE INAUGURATION OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY JULY 28, PERU'S NATIONAL DAY. HAYA GAVE AN ELOQUENT ADDRESS EMPHASIZING THE ASSEMBLY'S AUTONOMY AND SOVEREIGNTY AS THE LEGITIMATE EXPRESSION OF THE WILL OF THE PERUVIAN PEOPLE AND THE PRIMARY AUTHORITY IN THE COUNTRY. HE NOTED THAT THE ASSEMBLY WOULD DISCUSS THE CURRENT CONCERNS OF PERU AS WELL AS FRAME A NEW BASIC LAW FOR THE NATION. THE NEW CONSTITUTION, HE SAID, WOULD REFLECT INTERNATIONAL CONCERN FOR THE FULLEST EXERCISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. REFERRING TO THE JUNE 18 VOTE, HAYA STATED THAT THE MILITARY HAD HONORED ITSELF BY PRESIDING IMPARTIALLY OVER THE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. HE NOTED THAT THE ARMED FORCES ALSO HAD AN OBLIGATION IN HONOR TO GUARANTEE FREE GENERAL ELECTIONS ONCE A NEW CONSTITUTION IS DRAFTED.

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3. HAYA, WHILE STRESSING THE NON-PARTISAN NATURE OF THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENCY, ALSO ALLUDED TO SEVERAL FAMILIAR APRA PROGRAMS WHICH WOULD BE RAISED IN THE ASSEMBLY INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION, PERU DEFINED AS A REPUBLIC OF MANUAL AND INTELLECTUAL WORKERS, THE NEED FOR AN ECONOMIC CONGRESS, EQUAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN, UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE (INCLUDING ILLITERATES) AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST POLICIES. HE ENDORSED THE CON-

CEPT OF ELECTED MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES AND OF ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION. HAYA CONCLUDED BY QUOTING LINCOLN'S CALL FOR GOVERNMENT BY, FOR AND OF THE PEOPLE.

4. SPECIAL QUESTS AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE PRESIDENT OF THE LATIN AMERICA PARLIAMENT, VICTOR MANZANILLA OF MEXICO, FORMER PERUVIAN PRESIDENT JOSE LUIS BUSTAMANTE Y RIVERO (EX-PRESIDENT FERNANDO BELAUNDE TERRY ALSO WAS INVITED BUT WAS OUT OF LIMA THE 28TH), THE PRESIDENT OF PERU'S SUPREME COURT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION, CARDINAL LANDAZURI AND THE HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. NO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOP WAS PRESENT.

5. HAYA DELIVERED HIS ADDRESS TO A FULL HOUSE. A LARGE GROUP OF SPECTATORS (MOSTLY APRISTAS) HAD WAITED ALL DAY IN THE PLAZA BOLIVAR TO GREET HAYA AND VIEW THE PROCEEDINGS. PREDICTABLY, APRISTAS AND VARIOUS COMMUNIST GROUPS ENGAGED IN ALTERCATIONS PROVOKING POLICE INTERVENTION. THE POLICE FINALLY CLEARED THE PLAZA ABOUT AN HOUR AND A HALF AFTER THE CEREMONY.

6. COMMENT: HAYA'S REASONED AND RESPONSIBLE SPEECH HAS BEEN WIDELY PRAISED. EVEN APRA'S LEFTIST OPPONENTS GENERALLY HAVE AVOIDED DIRECT CRITICISM AND PPC'S BEDOYA REYES WAS VERY COMPLIMENTARY. WHILE STRESSING THE AUTONOMOUS NATURE OF ASSEMBLY, WHICH HE TERMED THE FIRST POWER OF STATE, HAYA AVOIDED CRITICAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE DE FACTO GOVERNMENT. HE DID, HOWEVER, STATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THE ASSEMBLY CANNOT IGNORE THE COUNTRY'S CURRENT PROBLEMS, BUT LEFT UNDEFINED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ASSEMBLY AND THE GOP. DECON 12-1-80. SHLAUDEMAN

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